



This statement was issued by the three top officers of the American Cancer Society:

Dr. Jonathan E. Rhoads, Director of Surgery, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and President of the American Cancer Society;

William B. Lewis, Chairman of the Board of the American Cancer Society;

Dr. H. Marvin Pollard, Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Michigan School of Medicine, President-Elect of the American Cancer Society and currently Chairman of the Medical and Scientific Committee of the Society.

The objective of the American Cancer Society and its 2,000,000 volunteers throughout the United States is the eradication of cancer in man.

The American Cancer Society stands firmly and confidently on the mass of evidence, statistical, epidemiological and biological, that the smoking of cigarettes is the major cause of lung cancer in man. The culminating evidence developed in the Auerbach-Hammond report demonstrates that dogs can get lung cancer from smoking cigarettes.

The findings of the study were made public at a scientific meeting of the American Cancer Society held in conjunction with a meeting of its Board of Directors. This was an open meeting to which physicians, other scientists and representatives of research and educational institutions were invited to attend. The Society had held many such scientific meetings in the past and will do so in the future. One of the reasons for a prompt presentation to the Society and through it to the public was the remarkably significant data obtained in support of the theory that the less tar and nicotine in the mainstream of

1005072636

smoke, the less the risk of emphysema and lung cancer. In other words, where effective filters were used in the study, no cancers were produced in the dogs.

For years some segments of the cigarette industry have attacked warnings of the dangers of cigarette smoking and protested that no one had been able to produce lung cancer in animals with cigarette smoke. This has now been done. This finding seems to be more important to the cigarette industry than to the ACS.

The ACS and most scientists believe the Hammond and Auerbach findings are interesting and significant, but even more important is the proof of the risks of cigarette smoking that exist in what happens to man, in the analysis of mortality rates and in the changes in lung tissue of human beings.

The Tobacco Institute attacks the American Cancer Society for "its use of publicity techniques." This comes from an industry that for years has relied on publicity and advertising to obscure the basic fact that cigarette smoking is the main cause of lung cancer in man. We are naturally gratified that the industry which has so long resisted scientific evidence apparently has now been converted to the principals of scientific validation, at least in this instance.

There never has been any restriction against individual scientists visiting the Veterans Administration Hospital at East Orange and reviewing the research with Drs. Auerbach and Hammond. A number of distinguished scientists have already reviewed the findings.

Because of the great public interest in the link between cigarette smoking and lung cancer, the ACS is requesting the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service to conduct an analysis of the Hammond and Auerbach study data.

April 30, 1970

1005072637